

March 15, 2013

# Weekly Views

Henryville Correctional Facility held a graduation for the first 15 offenders who successfully completed the Reformatory Residential Re-Entry Program (RRRP). The offenders learned how to be honest with themselves and others, to show tolerance in the views and beliefs of others and to show caring for others as well as personal responsibility for their actions. The course also requires a minimum of 124 hours of community service. The offenders in this class also donated money they earned from fund raisers to local charities within the Henryville community. Dr. Hall, Director of Religious Services, was the key note speaker. Dr. Hall asked the graduates to take what they learned with them and use their new tools when they were released. He stated the importance of following through with what they learned to help them

from returning to prison. After receiving their diplomas, offenders from the U.S. Department of Labor kitchen crew provided refreshments for the graduates and their families. The program concluded with a short visitation for the offender graduates and their family members. (photo below)

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) promoted four staff. Those promoted to sergeant include: Dell Sefton was hired in March 2003; Kipp Long was hired at MCF in December 2004 and rehired in October 2008; and James Rayle was hired at MCF in November 2009. All started out as officers. William Gilbert was also promoted to Maintenance Foreman. He was hired as a Repairman 2 in August 2008.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility Department of Labor staff passed their annual audit with flying colors. The entire Department was commended for their organization, offender packets, level of training, and commitment. The audit team was impressed with the teamwork and leadership exhibited and the obvious ownership of the specific programs. The results showed a complete turnaround from the previous year's audit and were so successful their model will be duplicated in other facilities.

Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) Superintendent Dushan Zatecky is pleased to announce that Andrew Cole has been promoted to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Re-entry, and Paula Dickson has been promoted to the position of Supervisor of Classification. All of the staff at PCF would like to express congratulations to Andrew and Paula and wish them well in their new roles at the facility.



Putnamville Correctional Facility PLUS dorm representative Ataul Shateef and program coordinator Karumathil Kumaran presented a \$500 check to legionnaire Michael Sparks for the Sons of the American Legion Post #58. The donation will be used to help construct a \$4500 ceremonial flag burning pit in Veterans Plaza in Greencastle, IN. The pit will be officially opened during a dedication ceremony to be held on Memorial Day. (see photo left)

Westville Correctional Facility Superintendent Mark Levenhagen and Corizon Health Service Administrator DeAngela Boyan are pleased to congratulate newly promoted Director of Addictions and Recovery Emily Kirk. Ms. Kirk's promotion puts her in charge of the facility's 604 bed Therapeutic Community (TC), one of the largest TC's in the nation, and the facility's 104 bed outpatient unit. Ms. Kirk joined the TC in November of 2011, bringing 10 years of experience in the addictions field, including the LaPorte County Drug Court and certification as an Alcohol and Drug Addictions Counselor.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Aramark staff celebrated their first ever Aramark Employee Appreciation Day! Food Service Director Lisa Bock said it meant a lot to her crew of 33 to be honored and personally thanked for their hard work via an appreciation letter from Aramark CEO Eric Foss. Bock said it is important to make sure everyone feels valued, recognized and appreciated. Superintendent Richard Brown also thanked Aramark staff for their efforts and contributions to facility safety and security. The Wabash team supervises offender workers as they prepare and serve over 2,100 offenders nutritious meals three times a day, 365 days a year. The Wabash event mirrored similar appreciation celebrations at IDOC facilities statewide. Thanks Aramark!!!!

Aramark held an Employee Appreciation Day at the Indiana State Prison. This was the first time Aramark has held an Appreciation Day for their employees. Each Aramark staff member was presented a commemorative coin and a Certificate of Appreciation from Aramark. Lunch was provided with ice cream and cake. In attendance were Superintendent William Wilson, Assistant Superintendent Dan McBride, and Aramark Managers Sammie Taylor, Wayne Peebles and Melvin Smith. Each shared a few moments thanking the employees for the great job they are doing, and expressing how important they are to the Department of Correction.

Motivational speaker Gary Woods spoke with students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. He shared his story of a motor cross injury that resulted in his paralysis from the neck down and his ultimate triumph of regaining the use of his limbs. Mr. Woods discussed opportunities for a second chance in life. He described how he was able to overcome the adversity in his life. He encouraged the students to evaluate their choices and seize the opportunities to improve their lives.